

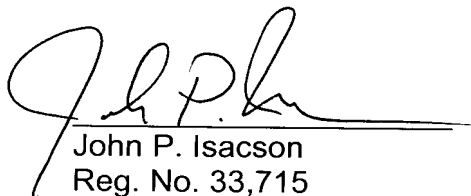
REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1-123 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and applicants expressly reserve all rights to such subject matter. Applicants have added claims 124-130, which are copied from or closely paraphrase claims from U.S. Patent No. 6,017,975 to Saum *et al.*, which issued January 25, 2000 (copy enclosed). Claims 124, 125, 128 and 130 correspond respectively to claims 1, 15, 32 and 35 of the '975 patent. Claims 126 and 126 correspond to claim 31 of the '975 patent. Claim 129 corresponds to claim 34 of the '975 patent.

By filing of this application and preliminary amendment, applicants have fully complied with the requirements of 35 USC § 135(b)(1). Applicants request examination of the claims. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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